

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method of automatically determining a need to service a digital image acquisition system including a digital camera with a lens assembly, comprising:
 - (a) determining a probability that pixels within one or more acquired digital images correspond to blemish artifacts;
 - ~~(a)~~ (b) analyzing pixels within one or more acquired digital images according to the probability determinations that such pixels correspond to blemish artifacts;
 - ~~(b)~~ determining to determine whether a threshold distribution of blemish artifacts is present within one or more of said digital images; and
 - (c) indicating a need for service when at least said threshold distribution is determined to be present.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said one or more acquired images comprise one or more calibration images.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, said threshold distribution being determined based upon an analysis of the ability of an automatic blemish correction module of said digital image acquisition system to reasonably correct such blemishes within said images.

- 4 – 6 (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said one ~~one~~ or more acquired images are acquired with specific acquisition setting comprising one or more of aperture, shutter speed, sensitivity, and subject matter.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said specific acquisition settings are automatically determined in a specific calibration mode on said digital image acquisition system.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said analyzing is based on defined time interval since last said analyzing.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said analyzing is based on defined in relations with change of lenses.

11 – 42 (Canceled)